

SCORES JOIN TORRANCE PROGRESS CLUB

Santa Fe Plans Huge Industrial District In City

Our Track Will Run South to Lomita
BIG RANCH SOLD?
Report Coincides With Factory District Project Here

Indicating a vast plan for the building up of a great industrial district on the east side of Torrance, plans for a spur railroad to be constructed by the Santa Fe from its main harbor line southward to Western street in Lomita were made public at Tuesday night's trustees' meeting. The plans were presented for the purpose of securing permission to cross streets in Torrance. While it has been known for some time that the Santa Fe expects to build up a great industrial district along its right of way in and near Torrance, the spur track which will be constructed is the first definite indication of the company's plans. It is definitely known that the industrial department of the big transcontinental line is negotiating for the location of several important industries here. With the spur line built across the big Torrance lease of the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil company, subsidiary of the Santa Fe, it is believed that this property may be used for industrial purposes, with oil wells so located as to allow construction of buildings. With the announcement of the new spur came an unconfirmed rumor that the Weston ranch, west of Lomita, has been sold to a large company for industrial purposes. Owing to competition for industries, the Santa Fe is unwilling to make public all the definite projects it has under way for Torrance, but it is known that these plans mean tremendous development for this city.

Will Allow No More Boxing by Women in City

Boxing matches between women will not be allowed in Torrance, and promoters of bouts will be forced to confine their programs to boxing. This was assured Tuesday night when the board of trustees, at the behest of George Proctor, instructed the clerk to inform promoters of the series of bouts at Legion hall to "cut out" boxing between women and other alleged entertainment in the future.

JURY ACQUITS W. H. DONNELLY IN RUM CASE

Charged with having liquor in his possession and with selling it, W. H. Donnelly was acquitted by a jury of Torrance men Wednesday. After hearing the testimony the jury deliberated about half an hour. Donnelly was arrested on November 17 for alleged violations of the Wright act and city ordinance No. 18, which makes it unlawful to sell liquor. He demanded trial by jury. The city hall was crowded all day with spectators to the trial. The jury consisted of the following: W. C. Dolley, George W. Nell, F. L. Parks, Ray Tomkins, A. W. Malone, Fred Hansen, H. E. Gadeky, Alfred Gourdier, A. W. Meinzer, Paul Bell, H. E. Paige, and Harry Warren. Donnelly denied the charges on the stand and other witnesses for him testified that he had not left his home long enough to sell the liquor, as alleged.

Factory Workers, Home Owners, Business and Professional Men Pledge Themselves to Betterment at Rousing Meeting

Progress for Torrance, support of the municipal government in all projects for the welfare of the city, unqualified opposition to the encroachment of oil development into the restricted district of the city. Those were the keynotes sounded at a determined and enthusiastic meeting at Legion hall when more than 100 men and women of Torrance sped on its way to perfected organization the newly formed Torrance Welfare club, which found its spontaneous origin after the bond elections of last week.

Band Together
The meeting was conspicuous in the wide diversity of interests represented. Home owners, factory workers, business and professional men banded themselves together for a common purpose. When the call came for signers of the declaration of principles of the organization, the response was prompt, and two long lines of citizens formed in front of tables to affix their names to the document which pledged signers to give "unflinchingly of their time, energy and property" for the upbuilding of Torrance.

Two outstanding developments took place at the meeting.

Support Trustees
1—Impressed by the growing disrespect for organized government throughout the country, aware of the fact that the Torrance board of trustees has met continually with destructive criticism but has lacked constructive aid from the citizenry in guiding the affairs of the municipal government, the meeting gave a rising vote of appreciation for the sincere efforts of the board of trustees and a vote of confidence in the work the board is doing.

2—Asked if the citizens present would favor a project for the paving of Western avenue at the same cost and on the same basis as proposed in the recently defeated bond issue, the meeting voted "yes" unanimously.

Another Next Week
Another meeting of the organization will be held next Monday night at 7:30 at the Methodist church. At this meeting by-laws and constitution of the new organization will be presented for approval of the members.

At this time, also, a definite plan for the paving of Western avenue will be presented by members of the board of trustees and other city officials. This proposition will be considered by the organization and approved or disapproved.

Old residents declared that at no time in the history of Torrance has any body of citizens banded together with such evident determination to see this city forge ahead to its justified position in the state.

Temporary Chairman Richard Smith opened the meeting by introducing Dr. George H. Rice of Los Angeles. Dr. Rice spoke.

Dr. Rice issued an impassioned appeal for organized and continued support of the ideals for which this government was founded. He praised in high terms the organization of citizens in Torrance for the support of constituted government, constructive aid to civic bodies, and improvement of the ideals of American citizenship.

"I have watched Torrance for fifteen years," he said, "seen it grow up from the prairie. I am proud of the progress it has made. I want it kept in its integrity—the synonym for all that is beautiful."

Outlines History
Mr. Smith outlined the history of the city, going back to the days when the first shop and workmen came to town.

"In those days there was little for the boys to do," he said, "so we organized an Athletic Club. That organization had a constructive purpose. It was the first organization of Torrance—and for a worthy purpose."

"The next step in the definite upbuilding of the community was the organization of the Chamber of Commerce, three members of which with three members of the Dominguez Land corporation directorate conducted community affairs. That also was for a constructive purpose."

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New Wells In, But Field Is Producing Less Than Before

Building Permits To Nov. 30 Five Times 1922 Mark

Although November is usually a dull month in the building trades, permits were taken out in Torrance from November 1 to November 30 for the construction of dwellings which, when completed, will house 21 families. The aggregate cost of dwelling-house construction represented in the month's building permits was \$41,100—or an average of almost \$2,000 per dwelling. Building permits for the month of November totaled \$120,195. Permits for 1922 were only \$318,530. For the first eleven months of 1923 they aggregated \$1,663,945—more than five times the total amount for the entire year of 1922.

ROBBERS LOOT YOUNG HOUSE; STEAL BONDS

Silk, Watches and Rugs Also Included in Booty

Daylight robbers entered the home of Mrs. E. P. Young on Post avenue and made away with valuables worth about \$500. The thieves' loot included \$300 worth of Liberty bonds, a quantity of silk, two wrist watches, and two rugs. Police believe the guilty person is the same who has entered other homes in the city within the last few months.

6 NEW WELLS ARE BROT IN DURING WEEK

Superior Leads the List With 1900-Barrel Perham No. 2

Six new wells were put on production in the Torrance-Lomita field this week. Star Petroleum brought in its well at Fir and Pennsylvania streets at a 1500-barrel rate. The well was completed at 3740 feet. Flush production on Superior's Perham No. 2 near the old Redondo road was 1900 barrels. The hole was drilled to 3340 feet, but was plugged back to 3800 because of bottom water. The Petroleum Midway company got flush production of 1800 barrels when it completed its Post-Houts No. 1 on Fir street between Cypress and Pennsylvania streets. The well was drilled to a depth of 3750 feet. Federal's Huyck No. 1 at Fir and Pennsylvania was brought in at 1800 barrels a day. U. S. Royalties No. 10 on Fir street between Narbonne and Pennsylvania was brought in with a flush production of 1500 barrels. The well was drilled to 3745 feet. Chanslor-Canfield brought in Torrance No. 18 on the old Redondo road at 832 barrels. Production in this area is daily getting lower because of close drilling. Torrance No. 18 was completed at 3730 feet.

TO INSTALL OFFICERS
The newly elected officers of the Eastern Star will be publicly installed next Thursday evening, Dec. 13. Members and friends are urged to be present. An especial invitation is extended to members of other chapters.

WELL AT ARLINGTON AVENUE AND PLAZA DEL AMO IS WET

Owners of property near the corner of Arlington avenue and Plaza del Amo were disappointed Wednesday night when the Wilkes and Titus well near that intersection came in wet. The company is undecided as to the cause of the trouble. The well was drilled to 3800 feet. One contention is that it was drilled too deep. Another is that the water is entering a leak in the casing. The well is on a line with Chanslor-Canfield's Torrance No. 10 and Superior's Shedd No. 1, both of which have failed to correct water troubles.

Close Drilling Causes Sharp Decline of Producers

FALL OFF 60 PCT. 1700-Barrel Well Now Flowing 655 a Day

Despite new production from 10 new wells that have been brought in during the past two weeks, the yield of oil from the Torrance-Lomita field is less than it was ten days ago, owing to rapidly declining production of wells in the closely drilled district of the old Redondo road. Two weeks ago production in the field was well over 35,000 barrels a day. On Wednesday of this week it was only a little over 31,000 barrels. Flush production of wells in the closely drilled area has decreased alarmingly.

In some cases the decline has been as high as two-thirds. Wells Hard Hit
Producers along the old Redondo road are by no means the oil wells that they were before intensive drilling started. An example of the decline is the Midway Northern well, which pioneered the district, and Torrance No. 8, Chanslor-Canfield's offset to the discovery well.

The Midway Northern well came in at a rate of 1500 barrels a day. A few weeks later Torrance No. 8 drilled a little deeper and went on production at a 1700-barrel rate. In the meantime intensive drilling operations started, with scores of derricks going up "hub to hub." For several weeks the Midway Northern well and Torrance No. 8 produced about 1500 barrels a day apiece. Decline Is Sharp
This rate was maintained even after the first two or three additional wells came in close by. But recently the production on both these wells dropped suddenly. Today the Midway Northern well is producing less than 700 barrels. On Tuesday Torrance No. 8 produced 655 barrels—only about a third of its flush production. The story of these two wells is the story of every other well in the district.

Close Drilling Cause
Production charts on all wells in the district near the Torrance-Lomita boundary all tell the same tale of the footholdness of intensive and close drilling. Contrasted with the sudden decrease in production in this area is the steady flow of wells further north on the Chanslor-Canfield Torrance lease, where the land is not overdrilled. Torrance No. 4 on Carson street was brought in six months ago at 900 barrels a day. Tuesday it produced 651 barrels. Oil operators believe that many wells in the closely drilled area will never pay out.

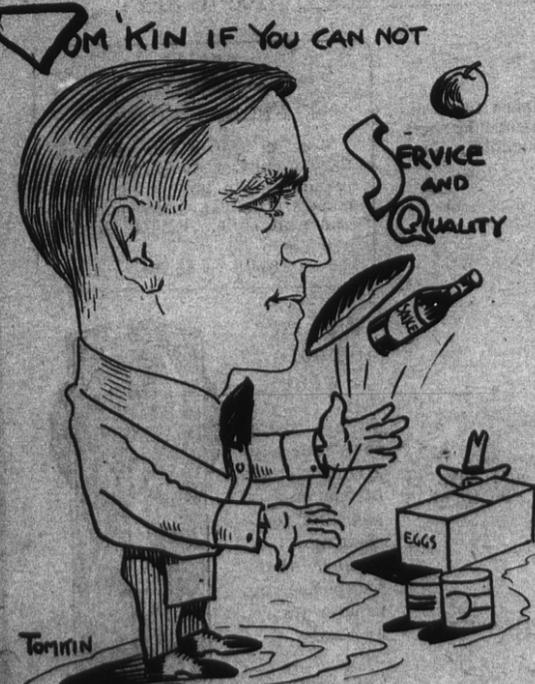
Would Zone Carson Street for Business

A petition to change Carson street from residence to business property was presented to the board of trustees Tuesday night by Fred Palmer, who asserted that 50 per cent of the property owners had signed it. The board referred the petition to City Engineer Jessup, who will ascertain whether the petition was signed by a number sufficient to effect the change of zone requested.

ATTEND INSTALLATION
A number of local members attended the installation Thursday evening of officers in the Gardena chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

RAYMOND GEORGE TOMKINS

By THE MYSTERIOUS COWBOY



Raymond Tomkins, proprietor of Torrance's first grocery store, is a native of San Jose, Calif., up in the country where the fine prunes come from and where the romance and legend of early California history is seen at its best. Tomkins attended the public schools at the city of Santa Clara, nearby his birth place, and later on went to Napa, in the beautiful Napa valley that leads down to San Francisco Bay. At Napa he entered high school and subsequently went to business college. As the community well knows, Tomkins is the son of the able painter who has contributed so much to the bright appearance of this city. It is but natural, then, that we should find

BLOW-IN OF SENTINEL WELL AND PROMISE OF S. O. WILDCAT BOOM EAST SIDE OIL LAND

Eyes of the oil operators turned to the eastern extension of the field here this week, attracted by important developments on three east side wildcats—Standard's Dominguez No. 1, Julian's Spittstoesser No. 1, and Sentinel's Joughlin No. 1. Standard has drilled through and will clean out for production Thursday night. Operators look for the big company to get at least 1000 barrels a day from this well, which, if completed, will prove up an immense territory. Sentinel's Joughlin No. 1, half a mile east of Arlington street on the old Redondo road, furnished plenty of excitement this week, by blowing in while the crew was balling for a water test. Oil shot high over the crown block. Julian's wildcat in east Lomita is down 3750 feet. It will be plugged back and cemented at a higher level this week. A core taken at 3750 feet responded to the other test.